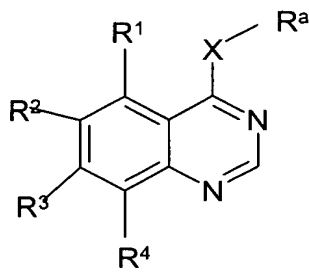
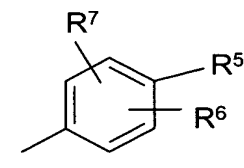


AbstractThe use of a compound of formula (I)

(I)

or a salt, ester or amide thereof;where X is O, or S, S(O) or S(O)₂, NH or NR⁸ where R⁸ is hydrogen or C₁₋₆alkyl;R^a is a 3-quinoline group or a group of sub-formula (i)

(i)

where R⁵, R⁶ and R⁷ are various specific organic groups, in the preparation of a medicament for use in the inhibition of aurora 2 kinase.Novel compounds of formula (I) and pharmaceutical compositions useful in the treatment of cancer are also described and claimed.